



## Family Friendly Fall Program Will Honor Bandmaster John Philip Sousa

The Chevy Chase Historical Society will honor the life and music of John Philip Sousa on Sunday, October 18, with a 4:00 p.m. family program at the Jane E. Lawton Recreation Center, 4301 Willow Lane, in the Town of Chevy Chase.

Sousa directed the Marine Corps Band, which frequently played at the Chevy Chase Lake Dance Pavilion in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Chevy Chase Lake, once situated east of Connecticut Avenue and south of Jones Bridge Road, was a popular destination for Washington area residents. Revelers traveled by trolley to the terminus at the lake, where they enjoyed rowing, picnicking, music, and dancing. Important musicians of the day, including Eubie Blake, often performed. Sousa was known to lead his band in musical selections as they made their way to the lake by trolley.



**Speaker Mathew K. Brown**

Sousa historian and tuba player Matthew K. Brown will bring the great American bandmaster to life in his presentation at the program. Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at Millersville University and Temple University, Mr. Brown has held the principal tuba position with the Palm Beach Opera Orchestra and also has performed with the Florida Philharmonic Orchestra, the New World Symphony, and the Miami City Ballet. He has performed hundreds of concerts throughout the United States, including weekly internationally televised performances from the Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Into his unique multimedia presentation, Mr. Brown incorporates original recordings, photographs, and other ephemera drawn from his personal collection of Sousa memorabilia.

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## CCHS House Photography Project Documents Community's Residential Architecture

Organized by Evelyn Gerson, Executive Director of the society's Archive and Research Center, the Chevy Chase Municipalities House Photography Project is capturing the residential architecture of the community to create a permanent visual record during a period of rapid change.

Last summer, volunteers Sam and Andrew Hellerstein photographed and identified the houses in Sections Three and Five of the Village of Chevy Chase, and The Village of Martin's Addition. This summer and fall, board member Julie Thomas – who also heads the society's Oral History Project – and volunteers George Kinter and Daniel Button have photographed and identified the houses in Chevy Chase Village and in the Town of Chevy Chase. At the Center, Gerson keeps track of progress on a large map, makes assignments to volunteers, and oversees interns' accessioning of the photos into the archive's photo collection

Photography, on foot, of more than 2,500 residences in a large area, during two summer seasons, is hot, hard work. The volunteers obtain the best possible shots of houses' facades. If restoration or remodeling are in progress, they obtain additional shots from different angles to show changes. Many of the houses already photographed have since been modified considerably, or even razed. What better illustration of the project's importance to preservation of the history of Chevy Chase?



**117 Oxford Street  
"captured" in the nick of time**

"It is well worth it to have this wonderful documentation at a specific moment in time," observes Thomas. "We already are using the photos to accompany Oral History Project reports and house histories." And, like all of the 8,000 photos in the society's collection, the house photos can be viewed online at the CCHS website, [www.chevychasehistory.org](http://www.chevychasehistory.org).

## Progressive Dinner Celebrates 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Section Four Platting in 1909

Town of Chevy Chase residents opened their homes to their neighbors on September 12 for a progressive dinner marking the 100th anniversary of the subdividing of lots in 1909 for Section Four of the Village of Chevy Chase, the core of today's town.

Nearly 140 residents attended dinners in 12 homes, then moved to other nearby homes for dessert. The repast was prepared by 23 different residents of the town and delivered to host homes in the afternoon.



**Dinner Guests at Nancy and Charles Duffy's 1914 house**

Dinner guests like Don and Peggy MacGlashan of Woodbine Street gave the evening rave reviews. "What a great way to meet people whom we might never otherwise meet," said Don. "I'd guess the ages in our group varied from 22 to the late 50s. We were the oldest at 79. Egads!" Residents are urging the town to make the progressive dinner an annual event.

This year actually marks the 100th anniversary of two important events in the town's history. In 1909, the Chevy Chase Land Company submitted to the county its subdivision plat for the earliest part of today's town – the area west of Connecticut Avenue and north of Bradley Lane. Inspired by the style of noted landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, the plan called for retaining the natural topography of rolling hills and small streams, and for creating wide streets with tree lined sidewalks and generous front yards.

Also in 1909, residents on both sides of Connecticut Avenue formed the Chevy Chase Citizens Association of Sections Three and Four. Thus, although Section Four would not become an incorporated municipality until 1918, the seeds of self government of what is now called the Town of Chevy Chase were planted 100 years ago.

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The lively presentation, appropriate for children and adults, will be followed by a rousing performance by a ceremonial unit of the United States Naval Academy Band. Founded in 1854 and comprised of professional, active duty, Navy musicians, the band was instilling patriotism in the hearts of Americans audiences decades before Sousa led musical evenings at Chevy Chase Lake. The October 18 performance



**Naval Academy Band unit to perform at Fall Program**

by approximately 15 musicians will involve all the instruments for which Sousa composed and will include a selection of much-loved American classics.

Admission is free for this special one and one-quarter hour program of Sousa memories, concert, and patriotic refreshments. Please direct questions to CCHS program chair Shelly Brunner at (301) 907-8072.

**Answer to Spring 2009 "Mystery!":** Henry Gwiazda correctly identified the "Mystery!" house shown on the left in our Spring issue as 8026 Glendale Road. The house on the right was not identified.



**CHEVY CHASE**  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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